

Countryside Homes Association Monthly Meeting Minutes for 2/3/2010, 7:00pm CST

Meeting took place at Minsky's on Main Street.

Those in attendance:

Joe Grego, Kathy Arthur, Mario Vasquez, Jim Kraus
Mike O'Neill, Mary Kay, Kyle Kelly, Darryl Hawkins

7:05pm- In Terry Rodeghier's absence, the meeting was called to order by Jim Kraus

Review of Minutes From Previous Meeting – minutes approved.

7:10pm Mario Vasquez' Treasurer's Report – Having moved our monthly meetings up to the first Wednesday of the month has put us in a situation where Mario, our Treasurer, does not have the numbers from the prior month to report on. Mario will send forward a report to the members of the Board as soon as the information becomes available. On the subject of overdue Homes Association Dues, Jim Kraus has once again offered to resume his "collection" efforts.

Snow Removal Update – The question was posed regarding our ability to arrange a salt/sand treatment in advance of a storm's arrival. I (Joe Grego) called our plowing company to inquire and was told that it was discouraged due to the common condition of rain turning to snow. When we have this situation, the rain washes away the benefits of pre-treatment. Due to the amount/number of snow falls in 2009; we've used and exceeded our budget. A decision was made by the Board to change our snow removal plan for the remainder of the year. Going forward, the plowing company will not automatically plow after 4 inches of snow. They must now receive a call from a member of the Board in advance of every plow job.

Safety Update – Security report as of 12/31/09 – More of the same...cars left running in order to warm up, etc...We wondered out loud if it would be possible to offer a presentation consisting of graphed data that has been accumulated during our first year of retaining an Enhanced Security team to our residents at the annual meeting. There was a drug bust in December at 22 E. 54th Terrace. Kathy attended the Self Defense Class @ UMKC in December and reported that it was very beneficial. Keep points were to always be aware of one's surroundings and always call suspicious behavior reports in to 911 regardless of how minor it might seem.

Motion Made – to consider moving our monthly meeting dates to the 3rd Wednesday of each month to accommodate the availability of the previous month's expense figures and crime activity reports. There were no objections to this motion.

7:45pm Communications Update - Quarterly Newsletter for March is right around the corner and must be finalized by the end of February. Article suggestions are as follows:

Kathy would provide a summary of her experience at the UMKC Self-Defense class.

Perhaps Mario could provide a Historic District update.

Trees on 55th Street – An article updating the neighbors of the situation/progress. Project slated to begin in March and complete in early April.

Dumpster Day – It's been scheduled for May 15th. We'll also be offering electronics disposal. Jim Kraus of Brookside Real Estate, Kyle Kelly of Kelly's Westport, and Mike O'Neill of NASB have all offered to sponsor a dumpster at \$50/ea to create advertising and defer HOA expense.

Glass Recycling – Ripple Glass bins have popped up in the neighborhood.

UMKC/Brookside Plan – perhaps Terry could provide a written update for the Newsletter.

Social – Annual Meeting Update – Mike O'Neill has been in contact with Visitation regarding the availability of the facilities at Visitation's Tighe Hall for the purpose of hosting our 2010 Annual Meeting. Dates available are Tuesday 4/6, Wednesday 4/14, Wednesday 4/21 and

Thursday 4/22. Collectively, we ranked the available dates in order of most attractive and decided that our ideal date would be 4/21. Mike will reserve this date and our next step is to check the availability of Visitation Lunch Chef Mark Blanck. Joe G will check his availability for the 21st.

Easter Egg Hunt – Joe G to check with Jen Greene to see if she'd like to organize this year's event once again.

Welcome Baskets – An idea was voiced to include an article in the Newsletter lobbying all Neighborhood Business Owners that might be interested in donating items for the New Neighbor gift baskets. Free advertising opportunities!

Island Maintenance – No new news on this subject at this time. As the weather begins to warm up, these projects will once again come to the forefront.

Community Garden Plots – No New News in this area. More info as it comes available.

Special Projects – KCPL/KC Parks Department/Countryside HOA Partnership – this group has convened to create a plan to remove and replace the 18 trees that are dying along 55th and 57th Streets. The final details are that Countryside HOA will be contributing \$2000 towards the total project cost of \$4,000+. Our cooperation and financial commitment is the force that has allowed this project to go forward by bridging the cost gap between the Parks Dept and KCPL. The tree removal and replacement will begin after Jan 1, 2010, weather permitting.

1. **Expansion of Historic District** – No news on this subject this month.
2. **PIAC Request** – No new news here this month.

General Topics –

The subject of the narrowness of Wyandotte between 51st Street and 52nd Street was revisited. A suggestion was made that we do what we can to lobby for a situation where parking is not allowed on both sides of the street. This would enable emergency vehicles to successfully navigate this narrow stretch of roadway.

Kyle Kelly suggested we create a power point presentation for the annual meeting to illustrate exactly what we receive in dues, the amount of our dues delinquencies, and our expenses. This presentation would clearly reveal the need for an increase in the base assessment. We also discussed analyzing our expenses to evaluate where we can improve. Advertisements in the newsletter will help. Evaluation of the services provided by HAKC (formerly HACCD). Others?

Kathy recently attended the Neighborhood Advisory Council and received good information.

Adjourned: 8:30pm

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, March 3rd @ 7:00pm, Minsky's on Main.
Joe Grego, Loyal Secretary, Countryside Homes Association.